

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 28612

PASS DAVID OLIVER, FEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: IEA: LETTER FROM SECRETARIAT RE CRUDE COST
DATA REPORTING

1. SECRETARIAT (BRYANT) HAS REQUESTED THAT FOLLOWING
CLASSIFIED LETTER BE FORWARDED TO DAVID OLIVER, FEA.

2. BEGIN TEXT

PLEASE REFER TO DOCUMENT IEA/SOM(76)52 DISCUSSING
THE PROBLEM OF AFFILIATED COMPANY CRUDE OIL COST
REPORTING. IN CASE IT PROVES INFEASIBLE FOR SHELL OIL
TO REPORT THEIR ACQUISITIONS THROUGH SHELL INTERNATIONAL,
I ASKED NICK COLE TO SEE WHETHER A SYSTEM COULD BE
DEvised WHERE THE BLACK BOX WOULD RECOGNIZE AND DEAL
WITH THE CONFIDENTIALITY PROBLEM. THE FOLLOWING IS
COLE'S MEMO TO ME ON THE SUBJECT:

1. THE PROBLEM HAS BEEN RAISED OF UNAUTHORIZED
DISCLOSURE OF CRUDE COSTS WHEN ONE COMPANY A, INSTEAD OF
MAKING ITS REPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT VIA ITS HEADQUARTERS,
MAKES TWO REPORTS FOR ONE CRUDE STREAM, THE HEADQUARTERS
TO ONE GOVERNMENT AND AN AFFILIATE TO ANOTHER; IF ONE
OTHER COMPANY B, REPORTS TO A THIRD GOVERNMENT, THE
BLACK BOX PROCEDURE WILL PASS THIS AS O.K. FOR AGGREGA-
TION BECAUSE THREE COMPANIES HAVE REPORTED; IN FACT,
ONLY TWO COMPANIES HAVE REPORTED AND COMPANY A CAN
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DEDUCE THE COSTS OF COMPANY B.

2. A POSSIBLE SOLUTION WOULD BE FOR GOVERNMENTS TO REPORT UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS THE COMPANIES WHICH HAVE REPORTED TO THEM. SPECIFICALLY, THE REPORTING FORM WOULD HAVE SPACES BESIDE THE COLUMNS FOR NUMBER OF COMPANIES IN WHICH CODES IDENTIFYING THE REPORTING COMPANIES WOULD BE INSERTED, IF LESS THAN THREE COMPANIES HAVE REPORTED. IN THIS WAY THE BLACK BOX PROGRAM COULD, AS WELL AS CHECKING ON NUMBERS OF COMPANIES, CHECK ON IDENTITIES OF COMPANIES AND AMEND THE NUMBER OF COMPANIES ACCORDINGLY IF IT WERE FOUND THAT THE SAME COMPANIES HAD REPORTED TO MORE THAN ONE GOVERNMENT.

3. AT NO TIME WOULD THESE CRUDES REPORTED ON THE CARDS BE KNOWN TO IEA PERSONNEL OR OTHER GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL; THEY WOULD NOT APPEAR ON THE OUTPUT LISTINGS.

4. THE PROPOSED TECHNIQUE FOR DEALING WITH ANY CASE OF A COMPANY REPORTING TO TWO GOVERNMENTS IS FOR THE BLACK BOX PROGRAM TO CONTAIN A TABLE OF COMPANY CODES AND COUNTRIES OF RESIDENCE; A REPORT BY A COMPANY TO A GOVERNMENT OTHER THAN THAT OF ITS COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE WOULD BE REARRANGED FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE LISTING TO THE COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE. THIS TECHNIQUE WOULD COVER ALL THE EVENTUALITIES OF MULTIPLE-REPORTING BY MULTIPLE-COMPANIES."

I PROPOSE THAT THE QUESTION BE DISCUSSED AFTER THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP MEETING ON 4TH OCTOBER BETWEEN THE DELEGATES OF THE SIX CURRENT REPORTING COMPANIES. I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOUR DELEGATES COULD BE IN A POSITION TO GIVE THIS PROBLEM ITS FIRST EXPOSURE AT SUCH A MEETING. REGARDS, BRYANT.
C.C. MR. NIALL ROBERTS, DEPT. OF ENERGY, LONDON
END TEXT
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